

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Higgins, anybody that is licensed has to take sixteen hours of continuing education before their license will be renewed.

SENATOR HIGGINS: All right, but if I am a licensed embalmer and I am only working at it part-time, I am asking you, what do the funeral directors who brought you the bill say? They obviously think that it is very important for this continuing education, right?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, they would still have to take the sixteen hours of continuing education before their license would be renewed.

SENATOR HIGGINS: That is what I wanted to establish.

SENATOR HEFNER: You are absolutely correct.

SENATOR HIGGINS: The funeral directors and embalmers should have a lot of education. Thank you, Senator Hefner.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Hefner, if you will, I, too, just have a question and it relates to a concern that I have had generally about continuing education that came up with regard to attorneys earlier actually. And the concern is basically that I'm not really in favor of setting up a form of continuing education that essentially forces people to join national organizations or some particular type of organization in order to get the job done and I guess what I...and there is a provision in your bill that says for example, "any program offered within the state must be open to all licensees within the state except that the Board may waive this requirement for courses sponsored by national organizations and held in conjunction with meetings in Nebraska, et cetera." Would you have any objection on Select File if there was an amendment that said with regard to the sixteen hours of continuing education that they have to approve sixteen hours that is available in Nebraska and that is open to all licensees as opposed to allowing certain national organizations to provide a portion of that sixteen hours?

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Beutler, I think that would be a good amendment. I wouldn't quibble about that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely.